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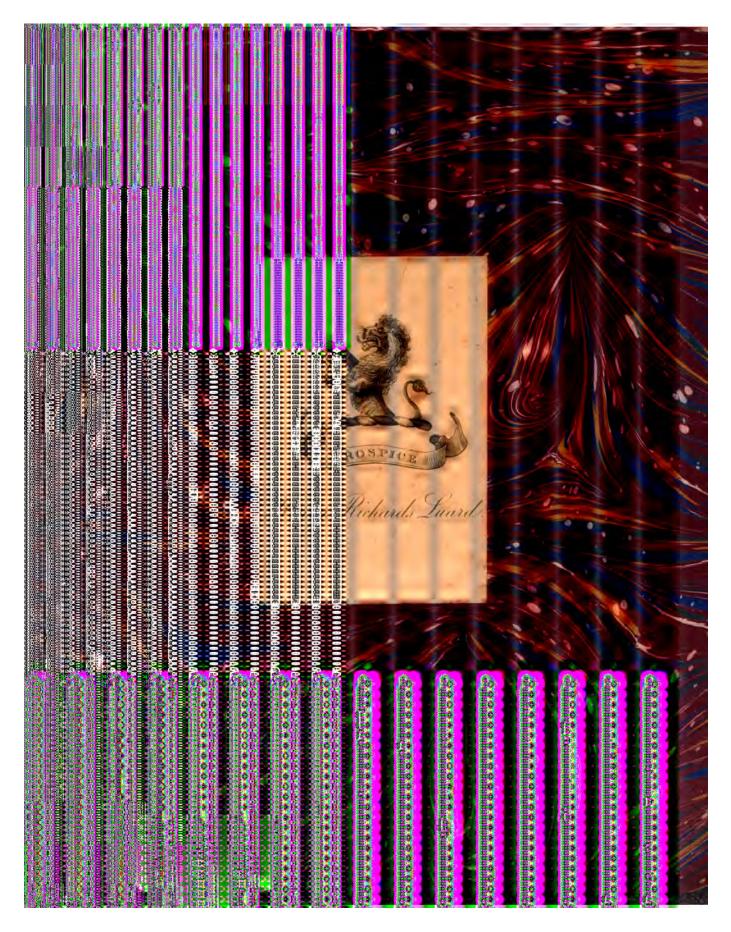
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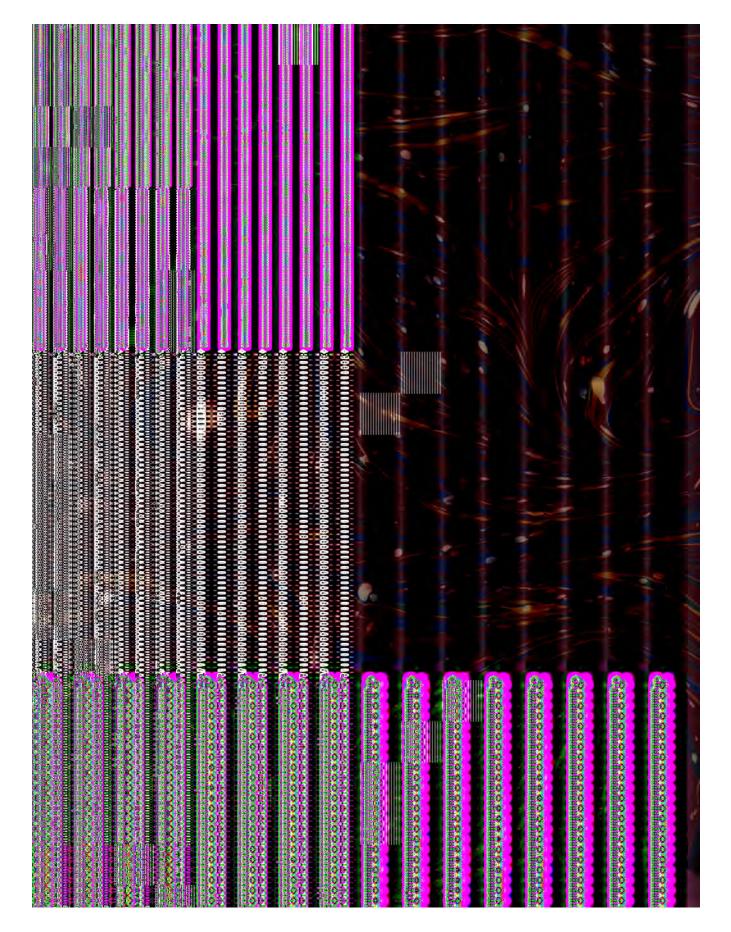
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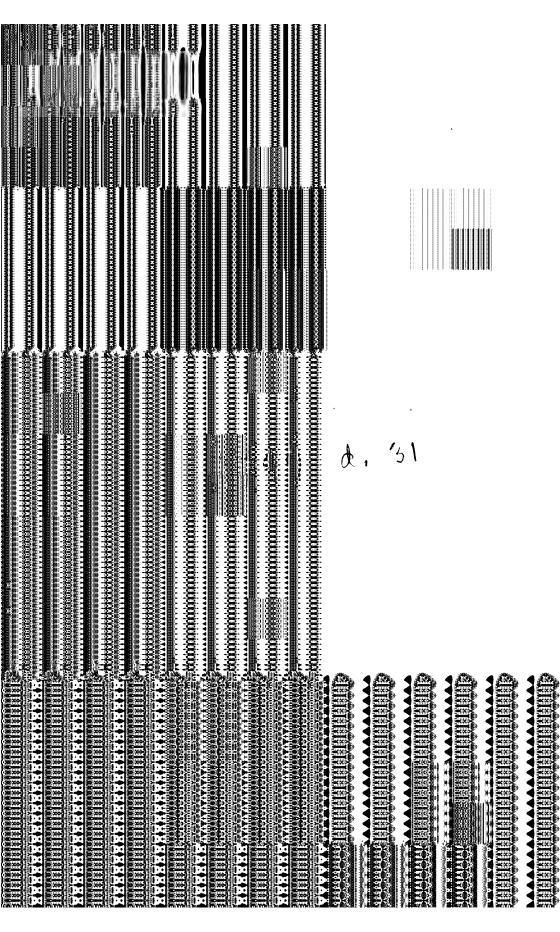
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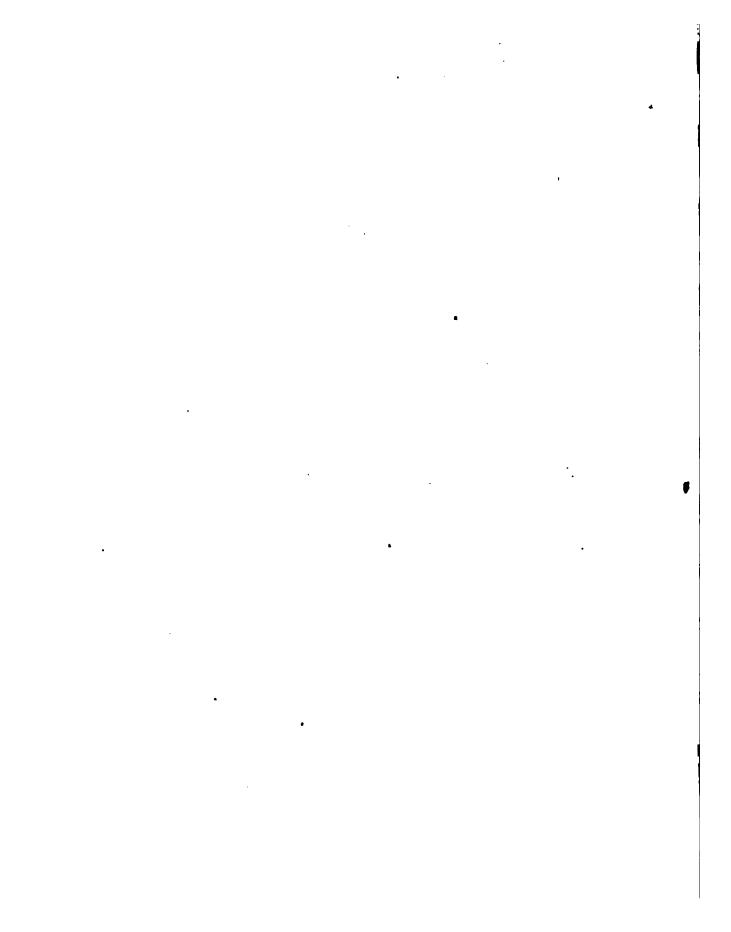
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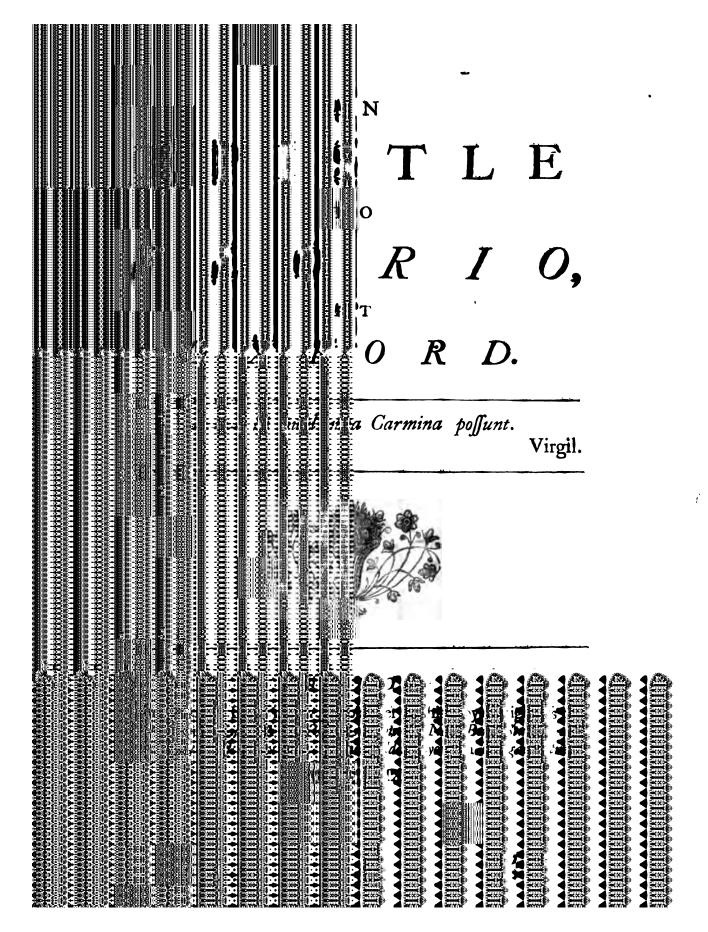
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Bad is the Cause, which Florio can't defend;
The Reas'ning weak, which can't convince a Friend.
What is this Shame of Change, you bid me fear?
Is it the Knave's Reproach, or Coxcomb's Sneer,
Or Lies, which Malice will repeat in vain,
A Fear of Danger, and a Hope of Gain?
Such Hopes and Fears, mean Motives! I disclame,
And, conscious of no Guilt, can feel no Shame.

Too long these empty Phantoms have suppress
Truth's sacred Dictates rising in my Breast;
When ev'n amidst our Joys, and wet with Wine,
I selt the Glimm'ring of her Ray divine:
Such as on Thames's Banks, in Eton's Shade,
We both once heard the Heav'n-instructed Maid;
Pleas'd at her Call through Learning's Maze to stray,
Where Hallifax and Sandwich led the Way;

Now

## [7]

Now dropt the tender Tear on Brutus' Herse, Now rais'd to George and Liberty the Verse.

The fad, the truly shameful Change you know, When first we bow'd to Freedom's exil'd Foe; Led by false Teachers, by ourselves betray'd, By fancy'd Right, and weak Compassion sway'd, For oft' exploded Lies we quitted Truth, For Faction's guilty Cares the Joys of Youth. Say if thy conscious Mind unmov'd recalls Our Noonday Riots, and our Midnight Brawls; How thy chafte Lips with foulest Slanders rung, How Treason thunder'd from thy tuneful Tongue. Inflam'd with Party Rage, and hot with Wine, What Ties restrain'd us, social or divine? When did we spare to brand the spotless Name, The Statesman's Virtue, or the Warrior's Fame;

Infult

Infult those Laws, which screen'd us from our Fate, And curse the Godlike Father of our State?

Here would I stop---for sure thy gentle Heart;
Repentant owns the vile unworthy Part:
But Truth and Friendship urge me to proceed,
And wound thy Memory with thy blackest Deed.
Alas! what Madness then my Soul possess,
What wild obdurate Phrenzy steel'd thy Breast,
When, in the Face of Heav'n's offended Pow'r,
By Him, by every Hope of Joy we swore,
What?--to support the Throne, we wish'd to shake,
And guard the Government, we strove to break.-What then, what check'd the Thund'rer's vengeful
Hand,

His Pow'r despis'd, his Deity profan'd; While thus to Treason Perjury we join'd, And prostituted God to cheat Mankind?

In vain you plead, with Guilt's evasive Art, " A different Language of the Tongue and Heart:" Or in a gayer Mood, and smiling, cry, "Our learned Doctors fwear, and why not I?" Shall Isis teach, in this enlighten'd Age, A Fraud exploded by a Heathen Stage? Shall Right and Wrong change with a Pedant's Whim, Or reverend Sinners fanctify a Crime? Tho' they, perhaps, purfue a fafer Road, And hold Sin lawful in the Cause of God: Inspir'd by Romish Zeal, th'Apostate Train Can taste nó foy till Rome's weak Bigot reign: Mitres and Lawns their prieftly Passions raise, While the good Pontiff feeds the pious Blaze; To each blind Swife his blank Commissions gives, And fanctifies at once their past and future Lives.

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Such

### [ 10 ]

Such are, perhaps, thy Guides; but O! beware; Small are thy Merits from the Papal Chair: Tho' factious Priests are sav'd by Mother Church, They leave th' unholy Layman in the Lurch.

What various Ill from blind Obedience springs,
Th' unwarrantable Glaim of Popes and Kings!
'Tis this that checks the Soul's aspiring Aim,
Unnerves her Strength, and damps her heav'nly Flame;
'Tis this supports triumphant Falshood's Reign,
While Truth subjected seels her galling Chain;
'Twas this, my Friend, (or say what other Pow'r
Subdu'd our Minds in that ill omen'd Hour).
This taught us sast, with reverential Dread,
To ask no Proof of what the Master said;
His mothey Systems blindly to receive,
Unquestion'd hear, and unconvinc'd believe

## [ 11 ]

All that before, in Filmer's hellish Page, To Slav'ry bent a loose degenerate Age; Or what, from facred Store of ancient Tales, Mysterious Carte in weekly Sheets retails; Proves both the Druid and the King divine, And hymns the Wonders of the fav'rite Line, Where Heav'n's own Seal attests th'authentic Grant. Which join'd in one the Monarch and the Saint. Then grieve not, Charles, thy fruitless Labours crost; A fafe unshaken Throne you still may boast: To Brunswick leave a rescuid Nation's Care: Do thou with pious Coaft, and Monkith Pray'r, Thy healing Virtues to the World make known, And for an earthly feek a heav'nly Crown. Thy Rome with Joy shall ope the blest Abodes, And add one Stwart to her Thousand Gods: Thy Oxford too shall year the fainted Shrine, And ev'n the Martyr's Tomb be less rever'd than thine.

Still

Still do I see the hoary Plaid-girt Seer, (A Crowd furrounding with attentive Ear) Unfold how Monarchy from Heav'n began, Who made a King when first he made a Man: A King compell'd a numerous Race to rear, Of Sons enflav'd to one predeftin'd Heir; That happy One to Pow'r Imperial born, The rest to Slavery, Poverty, and Scorn! From hence we trace the List of Royal Names, From haughty Nimrod down to exil'd James: From hence the Right inherent we derive, Which Birth bestows, but Virtue ne'er can give; Th' exclusive Right to those choice Souls confin'd, By God appointed Sovereigns of their Kind. Theirs is --- the Race of Man to save, or slay: --- Ye Sons of Freedom tremble and obey:

### [ 13 ]

So large the Power, so undeserv'dly giv'n,
Who but must own them Favourites of Heav'n?

While fuch-like Systems all our Souls engage, Scorn'd are the Studies of our happier Age: No more we hear immortal Homer's Song, Or Tyrants foil'd by Tully's pow'rful Tongue; No more we glow with all that Cato thought, That Freedom dictated, and Lucan wrote: Whate'er old Greece to virtuous Actions fir'd, Whate'er the glorious Sons of Rome inspir'd, Delights no more: The visionary Schemes Of Monks, fucceed to Plato's golden Dreams; Dull, cloyster'd Drones, with Minds untaught to prove The Hero's Rapture, or the Patriot's Love; Prompt to deform their wife Creator's Plan, And fell the first best Gift of God to Man!

By These convinc'd that Nature meant us Slaves,
No more our Breast with public Spirit heaves;
Restless we burn to seel our fated Woes,
And join the mungril Schemes of Freedom's Foes;
By passive Doctrines to Rebellion driv'n,
And taught by Perjury to merit Heav'n!

Tho' oft' to win the brave unwary Heart,

Foul Faction knows to play the Patriot's Part:

'Tis thus Mezentius, haughty, bold, and loud,

With Stoic Raptures awes th'admiring Crowd:

Virtue and Britain are his pompous Themes—

Revenge, just Jove, the violated Names!

What? was it Virtue arm'd thy daring Hand,

To deal rebellious Slander through the Land?

Was it thy boasted Zeal for Britain's Cause,

Revil'd her Monarch, and despis'd her Laws;

In tender Minds perverted growing Truth,
And fill'd her Prisons with corrupted Youth?

If such thy Merit, who can grudge thy Praise?

Go on, vain Man, thy empty Trophies raise;

Still in a School-boy's Labours waste thy Age;

In sulsome Flattery, or in pointless Rage,

Still talk of Virtue, which you never knew;

Still Slander all to Her, and Freedom true.—

Though crowded Theatres with Ios shook,

And shouting Faction hail'd her Heroe's Joke,

Who but must foom Applause, which King receives?

Who but must laugh at Praise, which Oxford gives?

Ungrateful Oxford! was it then in vain,
When griev'd you funk beneath a Tyrant's Chain,
In vain did Nassau use his Patriot Cares,
Redress thy Wrongs, and banish all thy Fears?

Still dost thou wayward court this hateful Race, Foes to thy Rights, and to thy Country's Peace? Still dost thou thwart a grateful People's Choice, And damp by factious Feuds the public Joys? While George's Title by each Foe's confest, And haughty France deserts her vagrant Guest; Sends him to strut an empty Polish Lord, Or for the Crosser change perhaps the Sword; While Peace o'er Europe's utmost Confines reigns, And sheds her choicest Gifts on Albion's Plains; While to remotest Ports our Sails we send, Secure to meet in every Port a Friend; Rever'd abroad, at home rich, happy, free, Shall England find her only Foe in Thee? Forbid it Heav'n! O cease the impious War! If not to Reason, listen to Despair; Tempt not thy injur'd Country's Rage alone, But own the Monarch, Jove and Britain own.

Thy

Thy Sifter, see! her brighter Glories raise, And court by worthiest Arts her Sov'reign's Praise: 'Tis her's the generous Ardour to impart, Which guides to noblest Aims the human Heart; Each Grace of locial Virtue to inspire, And fill the British Youth with Roman Fire. Her Sons exult beneath her fost ring Wings, And here a Whitehead, there a Mason sings; While thine --- (may Fame the hateful Truth conceal, And black Oblivion 'whelm the guilty Tale!) Thy flavish Race no Charms of Virtue move, Estrang'd by poisonous Arts from Freedom's Love: Lost to their God, their Country, and their King, To Science loft, --- their Joys from Riot spring: O'er the full Bowl their factious Zeal they boaft, Slander their Wit, and Slavery their Toast:

3

To their wild Shouts thy Tow'rs responsive rore;
The Graces droop, the Muses quit the Shore.
What Grace the Sons of Treason can adorn?
What Muse but slies the slavish Breast with Scorn?

But Thou, to whom belong these arties Lays,
Thou dear Companion of my earliest Days,
O view with friendly Eye thy once-lov'd Youth,
Fir'd in the Cause of Liberty and Truth!
If, nobly warm'd by Freedom's native Zeal,
From Faction's odious Face He tears the Veil;
If the rough Verse too harsh Resentment shows,
O think what Ardour in his Bosom glows!
Think to what glorious Point his Labours tood,
The Welfare of his Country and his Friend!

Now

## [ 19 ]

Now fees thee pensive in the gloomy Cell, Where black Despair, and broken Faction dwell; Now by misguided Zeal incens'd to War. Against thy Country shake thy Rebel Spear: Ever to Britain Weles, or abhor'd, Thy Ease inglorious, and accurs'd thy Sword: Sad State of Freedom's Foes! - But turn thine Eyes, ... And see in virtuous Pomp her Heroes rise! See Loske for Her unfold his facred Page! See Hampden stern a Monarch's lawless Rage! See gallant Sidney bleeding in her Cause! See every fearles Champion of her Laws, Whom Albion's lettest Annals shall record, Guarding her Peace, or brandiffing her Sword! Whoe'er their Country's facred Rights upheld, Undaunted in the Senate, or the Field; Each Care, each Toil for Liberty sustain'd, By William rescu'd, and by George maintain'd!

Fir'd by the glorious Scene, awake, my Friend, Let thy long Dream of guilty Error end; O fly you Walls, where learned Folly reigns, Where Vice and Faction lead their thoughtless Trains! To thy own Shades, to —— Groves repair; The Muse attendant shall await Thee there: There, while no Prejudice our Reason blinds, =: ... No Wine beguiles, no rev'renc'd Teacher binds; While no rude Clamors rend the peaceful Skies, Silent we'll hear our Parent Nature's Voice; With pious Awe explore her beauteous Plan, But chief, our own, our proper Province, Man: Impartial feek whence Law and Order came; What fecret Ties cement the focial Frame; Whence Kings derive their delegated Sway; What taught the pow'rful Many to obey;

The

## [ 21 ]

The Force of One, or Interest of All;
The sov'reign Will of Heav'n, or Reason's Call.

Let favage India view with wond'ring Eyes Her mortal Gods, the Children of the Skies; Let artful Priests repeat the slavish Tale, Or in the Gallic, or Campanian Vale: Not fo our hardy Sires to Empire bow'd, Reason their Guide, their End the public Good: For this the Man in Arms, or Arts renown'd, Grateful they honour'd, 'and for this they crown'd; .... On One the Burthen of the Whole was laid, And for Protection giv'n-Allegiance paid: For this great End (his Course of Virtue run, When the good Monarch left the vacant Throne) That jarring Pride, and civil Strife might cease, They bade the Son should fill the Father's Place, Nor dreamt of Right inherent in the Race.

## [ 22 ]

No Priest as yet the flatt'ring Tale had coin'd, That Heav'n the Many for the Few design'd; Nor figh'd their Kings, by wild Ambition led, To barter filial Love for flavish Dread. Ah! how unlike the future Sons of Pow'r, Intent the Hand that rais'd thein to devour; While, lost all Thought of mutual Ties, the Throne Is fill'd by vast Prerogative alone! Like Homer's Discord see the Monster rise, Sprung from the Earth, yet foaring to the Skies! Her to reprefs, and break a Nation's Chains, Our gallant Fathers rose: On bloody Plains Oft their confed'rate Banners they display'd, And shook their Tyrant on his Throne with Dread. Genius of Britain! of hast thou beheld Thy Warriors toiling in the well-fought Field; Oft has fair Liberty fulfill'il their Vows And twin'd her Laurel round their conqu'ring Brows,

Britannia bends beneath no private Lord;
Fix'd by whose Arms th'eternal Barriers stand,
And equal Empire rules the happy Land;
Her People free, her Monarch truly great,
Proud to be stil'd First Subject of her State.

To guard that State by Birth and Fortune chose,

No more let Florio rank among her Focs;

Born for the Good of Britain and Mankind,

To that great Task, O1 turn thy generous Mind;

To that great Task the Country of thy Sires

Thee loudly calls; O1 hear her just Desires;

In Albion's Councils take the proffer'd Share,

Nor shun the glorious Weight of public Care:

There let Her see thee, faithful to her Cause,

From Faction's Insults vindicate her Laws;

# [ 24 ]

Let Her with transport see each fav rite Son Of former Ages by thy Praise outdone; While, ever mindful of her facred Truft, True to thy King, and to thy Country just, The Rights of both you guard with steady Heart, And to the Statesman's join the Patriot's Part. Then shall thy Friend (nor thou refuse his Claim) With flumble Pride partake thy growing Fame; Happy, that not in loose inglorious Strains, He fung of cruel Nymphs, or love-fick Swains; But, early taught the gen'rous Warmth to feel; Pour'd forth his honest Song for England's Weal; Set tainted Youth from flavish Error free, And gave to Britain such a Son as Thee.

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